Wednesday July 7, 1976 CSM

JFK assassination probe assailed

By Mark Stevens
Special to
The Christian Science Monitor

Cambridge, Massachusetts

The flicker of doubt which the U.S. Senate Intelligence Committee has ignited with its recent report on the assassination of President John F. Kennedy is not, according to the Assassination Information Bureau (AIB), a big enough flame to expose what the bureau believes is a 13-year-old smoke screen of theories and controversy.

Calling the committee's speculations about the "Castro-did-it" theory "irresponsible" and the panel's speculations of Lee Harvey Oswald's intent "inadequate," the AIB says that while recent efforts are appreciated in cracking the door open for further investigation, the report is only a "single step" in a "journey of a thousand miles."

"The report is a landmark," says the AIB's Carl Olgesby. "It means for the first time since the Warren Commission that the question of who killed Kennedy can be put back on the national agenda."

However, say spokesmen for the AIB, a Cambridge-based clearinghouse for information, data, and research into political assassinations, the main weaknesses of the committee's efforts lie in examining the faulty theory that Cuban Premier Fidel Castro backed the Kennedy killing for revenge reasons, and in not examining more closely Oswald's involvement with U.S. intelligence agencies.

Citing improved relations between the Kennedy administration and Cuba as developed by William Atwood in the early fall of 1963, the AIB says that the Castro-backed assassination theory does not stand up to reasoning.

While the committee disclosed that the very day of Mr. Kennedy's assassination a CIA official met with a top Cuban official to supply a poison-pen device and offer a telescopic rifle for a planned coup, the AIB believes this to be a worthless piece of evidence as the Dallas killing had already taken place.